



Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008
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MONTANA MAN SENTENCED FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

BILLINGS – Daniel Michael Schaff, a 51-year-old resident of Billings, was sentenced today to a term of 240 months in federal prison in connection with his guilty plea to sexual exploitation of children and receipt of child pornography. Schaff was also ordered to forfeit his computer equipment and will be under supervision for 10 years.

In an Offer of Proof filed by the United States, the government stated it would have proved at trial the following:

At various times in 2006, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received referrals regarding Schaff, alleging that he had made sexual advances to a child while on the Internet and that he had posted child pornography images on the Internet.

On March 29, 2007, law enforcement officers contacted Schaff at his residence in Billings to speak with him about the allegations. Schaff admitted that he had chatted with a minor female from Oregon and that he had encouraged her to send web cam images of herself in sexually explicit conduct across state lines via the Internet which she did. Schaff admitted that he sent the same type of images to her. Schaff was contacted by the girl's father and told to have no further contact with her. When she turned 18, Schaff traveled to Oregon to pick her up and brought her back to Billings to live with him for a period of time.

Schaff also admitted that he had used a credit card to purchase access to child pornography websites and reported that he had a "problem" with that activity and that images of that child pornography he had received via the Internet would be on his computer. Schaff's computer and related items were seized and sent to the computer lab for forensic analysis.

The images found on the computer included children clearly under the age of twelve, including infants and toddlers, children engaged in sadistic or violent sexual activity, and numerous images of known victims.

The investigation was a cooperative effort between the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Billings Police Department, and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Assistant United States Attorney Marcia K. Hurd prosecuted the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department

of Justice launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

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